

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 02360 110834Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /095 W

-----069311 120623Z /15

R 110740Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7765

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

CONFIDENTIAL ABIDJAN 2360

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IV, FR

SUBJECT: IVORIAN VIEWS ON FRENCH PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

1. EMBASSY OFFICER AND VISITING PARIS POLITICAL OFFICER NICHOLAS MURPHY MET WITH FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS IN CHARGE OF U.S./EUROPEAN, AFRICAN AND UN AFFAIRS FOR A TOUR D'HORIZON. REACTION OF IVORIAN OFFICIALS TO QUESTIONS REGARDING FRENCH PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS WAS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST.

2. IN RESPONSE TO HOW A LEFTIST VICTORY IN FRANCE COULD AFFECT FRENCH POLICY IN FRANCOPHONE AFRICA, IVORIAN OFFICIALS STATED BELIEF CONTINUITY WOULD PREVAIL IN FRENCH POLICY. THERE ARE TOO MANY STRONG TIES TO PERMIT ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGES, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREA OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION. MOREOVER, SOCIALISTS

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ONCE IN POWER HAVE HISTORICALLY ADOPTED CONSERVATIVE FOREIGN POLICIES. NOTING THAT FRENCH SOCIALISTS HAVE BEEN CRITICAL OF GISCARD'S AFRICAN POLICY, PARIS POLICER ASKED WHETHER A LEFTIST VICTORY MIGHT SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT RELATIONS IN THE SECURITY AREA. IVORIAN OFFICIALS REPLIED IT WOULD NOT AND THAT, IN ANY CASE, THE SECURITY OF FRANCOPHONE AFRICA WAS A WESTERN AS

WELL AS FRENCH CONCERN. THEREFORE, IN THE EVENT OF A LEFTIST VICTORY, OTHER WESTERN NATIONS WOULD HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EITHER PERSUADING NEW FRENCH GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRTUES OF CONTINUITY OR OF FILLING SECURITY VACUUM. ADDITIONALLY, THE HOSPITALITY OF GOIC FOR THE LARGE FRENCH PRESENCE IN IVORY COAST WOULD APPEAR TO IMPOSE A CERTAIN OBLIGATION ON THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE.

STEARNS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978ABIDJA02360  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
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